



STANFORD UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

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MAY 17 1978

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STANFORD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
J. Garrett Allen, M.D.  
Professor of Surgery

May 15, 1978

Dr. Joshua Lederberg  
Department of Genetics  
Stanford University  
School of Medicine  
Stanford, CA 94305

Dear Josh:

A few weeks ago I explained to your secretary my concerns about the Ribicoff Committee's request for another investigation of BoB. This seems not only unfair, but based on dubious sources of information. June Osborn of Microbiology and Pediatrics at the University of Wisconsin at Madison, whom you may know, tells me that the provocateurs are Morris and Turner. The committee staff seems to have listened to them despite the Nicholas Wade articles in SCIENCE, a series published in February, March and early April, 1972. Wade characterized Morris as largely irresponsible, if not dishonest. It is curious that the Senators' staffs did not probe more deeply, if these two men, as claimed, are the sources of their present information and courses of action.

I can not evaluate BoB's record on vaccines, though I was with Sol Krugman and Harry Meyer on March 18, 1976, the afternoon after their advisors decided to go ahead with the swine flu program which, at that time, seemed to have been primarily at the instigation of CDC, not BoB. Regardless, the decision seemed to have been clinically correct from the information available at the time.

I have been asked to write about my experiences with BoB in the blood program since few people in vaccines have had much experience with BoB in the blood area except for Sol and me. My response to those in the vaccine areas has been a warm endorsement of BoB's supportive and active role in the blood program in contrast to the immovable stance of the old DBS under NIH, which had no regulatory experience or authority. DBS was the most important obstruction that I had to "overcome".

It would be most helpful if you could write to Ribicoff and Kennedy particularly concerning your judgment in the vaccine matter and the general performance record of BoB. I am enclosing a staff letter to Elmer Staats, signed by three of the Senators. Perhaps your secretary would kindly xerox three copies for me, since this is my last copy, and send them to me here in the country where there are no photocopying facilities. There should be a market for Xerox here, but no one seems aware of it!

Josh, I am genuinely sorry to see you leave Stanford but am certain that you will bring to Rockefeller University more talent than they have ever lost in the past -- and that's been quite a collection through the years.

BUREAU OF BIOLOGICS / FDA.

ALLEN, J. GARRETT

JL  
done  
gel

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Garrott".

J. Garrott Allen, M.D.

JGA:ka

P.S. Our address until August 1st is: Box 336, Rt.1  
Rapid City  
Michigan 49676

We are writing a monograph on "The Emerging National Blood Policy".  
We finally achieved Federal labeling of blood, effective today.